

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

Montgomery Blair Sibley,

Plaintiff,

Case No.: 19-CV-6517

vs.

**VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY  
JUDGMENT AND PRELIMINARY AND PERMANENT  
INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

Chauncey J. Watches, solely in his official  
capacity as a New York Consolidated Laws,  
Penal Law §265.00(10) Licensing Officer,

**ADVISORY JURY TRIAL REQUESTED**

Defendant.

\_\_\_\_\_ /

Plaintiff, Montgomery Blair Sibley (“Sibley”), sues Defendant, Chauncey J. Watches solely in his official capacity as a New York Penal Law §265.00(10) Licensing Officer (“Defendant Licensing Officer”), and, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1746, states that the factual matters stated herein are true under penalty of perjury, alleging as follows:

**INTRODUCTION**

By this suit, Sibley seeks:

- A Declaratory Judgment that New York’s criminal ban on Sibley’s handgun possession in his home and cane sword possession both in his home and in public on its face and as applied violates Sibley’s: (i) Fundamental rights, (ii) Second Amendment to the Federal Constitution rights and (iii) has been preempted by Federal Law;
- Preliminary and Permanent Injunctive Relief directing the Defendant Licensing Officer to register Sibley’s handguns and issue him a license to carry his handguns in the home;
- A Declaratory Judgment that New York’s administrative handgun licensing procedure on its face and as applied in Steuben County, New York and as codified in N.Y. Penal Law §400.00 *et seq.* and N.Y. Admin. P. Act, §100 *et seq.* violates Sibley’s rights protected by: (i) the First Amendment to the Federal

Constitution, (ii) the Second Amendment to the Federal Constitution, (iii) The Fourteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution, (iv) the New York State Constitution, Article I, §8 and (v) the tenets of New York Administrative Law;

- A Declaratory Judgment that the judicial review system of New York’s administrative handgun licensing procedure codified in New York CPLR, Article 78 on its face and as applied violates Federal and New York Due Process guarantees as failing to provide meaningful judicial review.

#### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

1. Jurisdiction of this Court is invoked pursuant to 28 U.S. Code §1331 and 28 U.S. Code §2201 & §2202.

2. Venue in this court is proper pursuant to 28 U.S. Code §1391 as a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims herein occurred in Steuben County, New York.

#### **PARTIES**

3. Sibley, is *sui generis* and a “natural born Citizen” of the United States as he was born in Rochester, New York, the child of two United States citizens, Harper Sibley, Jr. and Beatrice Blair Sibley and has continuously resided in the United States since his birth. Sibley at all times relevant herein has resided in the city of Corning, Steuben County, New York. Sibley:

- A. Is twenty-one years of age or older (N.Y. Penal Law §400.00(1)(a));
- B. Has not been convicted anywhere of a felony or a serious offense or is not the subject of an outstanding warrant of arrest issued upon the alleged commission of a felony or serious offense (N.Y. Penal Law §400.00(1)(c));
- C. Is not a fugitive from justice (N.Y. Penal Law §400.00(1)(d));
- D. Is not an unlawful user of or addicted to any controlled substance as defined in section 21 U.S.C. §802 (N.Y. Penal Law §400.00(1)(e));
- E. Is a U.S. Citizen who has not renounced his citizenship nor served in the Armed Forces (N.Y. Penal Law §400.00(1)(f),(g) & (h));
- F. Has never suffered any mental illness (N.Y. Penal Law §400.00(1)(i));
- G. Has not been involuntarily committed to a facility under the jurisdiction of an office of the department of mental hygiene nor has been civilly confined in a secure treatment facility (N.Y. Penal Law §400.00(1)(j));

- H. Has not had a license revoked or who is not under a suspension or ineligibility order issued pursuant to the provisions of section 530.14 of the Criminal Procedure Law or section eight hundred forty-two-a of the Family Court Act (N.Y. Penal Law §400.00(1)(k));
  - I. Has not had a guardian appointed for him pursuant to any provision of state law, based on a determination that as a result of marked subnormal intelligence, mental illness, incapacity, condition or disease, he or she lacks the mental capacity to contract or manage his or her own affairs (N.Y. Penal Law §400.00(1)(m)).
4. Defendant Chauncey J. Watches: (i) is a New York Penal Law §265.00(10) Pistol/Revolver Licensing Officer for Steuben County, New York, (ii) is sued solely in that official capacity and (iii) whose public office address is: 3 E. Pulteney Square, Bath, Steuben County, N.Y. 14810.

#### **PREVIOUS LAWSUITS**

5. There are no previous lawsuits between the instant parties or regarding the same facts involved in this case.

#### **GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

6. Since the early **1970s**, Sibley has owned and possessed handguns receiving in the **1980s** licenses to carry concealed such handguns in both New York and Florida. In or about **2009**, Sibley moved to the District of Columbia where he continued to possess his handguns in his residence. Likewise, Sibley has possessed, in his home and when in public, since the early **1970s**, a cane sword having concealed within it a blade that may be used as a sword or stiletto for self-defense.

7. In **November 2017**, Sibley relocated to Corning, New York, transporting his handguns to his new residence. Additionally, in **November 2017**, Sibley was licensed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources, Special Licenses Unit as a Nuisance Wildlife Control Operator, and issued

License #2799. Sibley continues to hold that Nuisance Wildlife Control Operator License to this day.

8. In **April 2018**, Sibley obtained his New York Hunter Education Certificate of Qualification.

9. On **July 18, 2018**, Sibley filed his State of New York Pistol/Revolver License Application (“Application”) with the Clerk of Steuben County. An un-executed copy of the redacted-for-privacy Application and Receipt is attached hereto as Exhibit “A”. Notably, Sibley, though not required, disclosed the make, model and serial number of the two handguns in his possession on the Application. Sibley’s Application was referred to the Defendant Licensing Officer for processing. The Application included Sibley’s fingerprints which triggered a series of background checks with the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene which, upon information and belief, all came back negative for any criminal or mental health history.

10. Five months later, on **December 28, 2018**, Sibley was interviewed in person by Steuben County Deputy Sheriff McCoy regarding his Application. A few days later, Deputy McCoy advised Sibley by telephone that he must either: (i) surrender his handguns to the Sheriff or a licensed firearms dealer or (ii) remove the handguns from New York pending determination of his Application. Deputy McCoy further advised that Sibley’s possession of his handguns in his residence was a crime pursuant to N.Y. Penal Law §265 *et seq.* Accordingly, Sibley removed his handguns and cane sword from New York.

11. On or about **March 8, 2019**, Sibley legally purchased a shotgun from a Federal Firearms Licensee in New York after passing the requisite Federal NICS background check. That shotgun remains in Sibley's possession in his home.

12. On or about **May 16, 2019**, the Defendant Licensing Officer *ex parte* contacted Sibley's employer by telephone seeking information about Sibley's activities as a New York Nuisance Wildlife Control Operator.

13. On **May 29, 2019** – three hundred fifteen (315) days or 10 ½ months after Sibley filed his application – the Defendant Licensing Officer sent Sibley a letter denying to Sibley a Pistol/Revolver License. In that letter, the Defendant Licensing Officer stated in pertinent part:

- That the Defendant Licensing Officer had reviewed Sibley's application and "the investigation submitted by the Steuben County Sheriff's Department";
- "The basis for the denial results from concerns about your being sufficiently responsible to possess and care for a pistol";
- "[T]he Court is concerned that your history demonstrates that you place your own interest above the interests of society";
- "You do have the right to request a hearing with regard to the denial of your application."

A copy of the Defendant Licensing Officer's **May 29, 2019**, letter is attached hereto as Exhibit "B".

14. On **June 14, 2019**, Sibley responded to the **May 29, 2019**, letter from the Defendant Licensing Officer stating in sum and substance:

- That he was requesting a hearing on the denial;
- Requesting copies of all written investigation reports and/or objections from any police authority or person reported to the Defendant Licensing Officer;
- Requesting the sum and substance of any orally-communicated information received by the Defendant Licensing Officer regarding Sibley's application;

- Requesting copies of any legal or educational authorities or State Administrative Procedure Act, §102(14) Guidance Documents used to process Sibley’s application; and
- Advising that within thirty (30) days of receiving the above-information, Sibley would advise on the time needed to gather evidence to respond at the requested hearing.

A copy of Sibley’s **June 14, 2019**, letter is attached hereto as Exhibit “C”.

15. In response, on **June 25, 2019**, the Defendant Licensing Officer wrote Sibley stating:

- “Pursuant to your request I have scheduled a hearing on **July 31, 2019** at 10:30 a.m. in Courtroom C at the Steuben County Courthouse, 3 E. Pulteney Square, Bath, New York”;
- “You should be prepared to proceed on that date with any evidence which you intend to present to the Court including testimony from you or any other witness concerning your application”;
- “I have reviewed your requests for information and documents and find them to be without legal basis and therefore they are denied.”

A copy of the Defendant Licensing Officer’s **June 25, 2019**, letter is attached hereto as Exhibit “D”.

**FIRST CLAIM  
DECLARATORY RELIEF**

16. Sibley re-alleges paragraphs 1 through 15 and incorporates them herein by reference.

17. The Second Amendment to the Federal Constitution states: “A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.”

18. Under the Second Amendment, Sibley has a Federal Constitutional right – not a privilege – to possess handguns and cane swords held and used for self-defense in his home. Additionally, Sibley has a Fundamental right to possess his cane sword in public. Finally, as Sibley has been approved pursuant to 18 U.S. Code §922 to purchase a shotgun and therefore Sibley could have purchased a handgun, Federal law preempts New York law regarding possessing a handgun in the home.

19. N.Y. Penal Law §265.01(1), states “Criminal possession of a weapon in the fourth degree: A person is guilty of criminal possession of a weapon in the fourth degree when: “He or she possesses any [pistol or] . . . cane sword.” N.Y. Penal Law §265.01(1), criminalizes possession of a handgun by Sibley in Sibley’s home and Sibley’s cane sword both in his home and in public.

WHEREFORE, Sibley respectfully requests that this Court:

- A. Assume jurisdiction of this action;
- B. Declare that Sibley has, under the Second Amendment, a Federal Constitutional right – not a privilege – to possess handguns held and used for self-defense in his home and a fundamental right to possess his cane sword both in his home and in public.
- C. Declare that Federal law preempts New York law regarding possessing a handgun in the home.
- D. Declare therefore that N.Y. Penal Law §265.01(1) violates Sibley’s Second Amendment right to possess handguns held and used for self-defense in his home and Sibley’s Fundamental right to possess a cane sword both in his home and in public.

E. Retain jurisdiction of this matter to enforce this Declaratory Decree if subsequently violated; and

F. Enter such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

**SECOND CLAIM  
PRELIMINARY AND PERMANENT INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

20. Sibley re-alleges paragraphs 1 through 19 and incorporates them herein by reference.

21. By the denial of Sibley's Application, the Defendant Licensing Officer has violated Sibley's rights described in the First Claim herein as Sibley is not disqualified from the exercise of his Second Amendment rights in his home and thus the Defendant Licensing Officer must permit Sibley to register his handguns and must issue Sibley a license to carry them in the home.

22. Sibley is in danger of suffering irreparable harm if he is unable to exercise his right of resistance and self-preservation in his home if and when it becomes necessary.

23. The State of New York acting through the Defendant Licensing Officer will suffer no appreciable harm from the granting of this requested preliminary and permanent injunction as the injunctions only seeks that to which Sibley is indisputably entitled: The Fundamental and Second Amendment right of resistance and self-preservation in his home.

WHEREFORE, Sibley respectfully requests that this Court:

A. Assume jurisdiction of this action;

B. Issue a preliminary injunction and then a permanent injunction directing the Defendant Licensing Officer to register Sibley's handguns and issue him a license to carry his handguns in the home;

C. Retain jurisdiction of this matter to enforce its preliminary and/or permanent injunctions if subsequently violated by Defendant Licensing Officer; and

D. Enter such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

**THIRD CLAIM  
DECLARATORY RELIEF**

24. Sibley re-alleges paragraphs 1 through 23 and incorporates them herein by reference.

25. New York Penal Law §400.00(1) – Licenses to carry, possess, repair and dispose of firearms, “Eligibility” states in pertinent part: “No [firearm] license shall be issued or renewed except for an applicant: . . . (b) of good moral character . . . (n) concerning whom no good cause exists for the denial of the license.”

26. Upon information and belief, and after a reasonable opportunity for discovery, Sibley will establish that: (i) the Defendant Licensing Officer denied Sibley’s Application upon the conclusion that Sibley lacked “good moral character” and (ii) the basis for that conclusion was solely Sibley’s litigation activities upon behalf of himself, his children and his clients.

27. New York Penal Law §400.00(1)(b) & (n) on their face and as applied disfavors and punishes Sibley upon Sibley’s ideas and viewpoints as expressed in his litigations and petitions and thus discriminates against Sibley in the denial of his Application thereby violating the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the Federal Constitution.

28. New York Penal Law §400.00(1)(b) & (n) on their face and as applied are facially invalid as they violate the free speech, petition and due process guarantees of the First and Fourteenth Amendments as the legal-terms-of-art “good moral character” and “no good cause exists for the denial of the license” are void-for-vagueness, facially overbroad, violate the equal

protection and privileges or immunities guarantees and encourages and permits, as here, arbitrary and discriminatory enforcement.

WHEREFORE, Sibley respectfully requests that this Court:

- A. Assume jurisdiction of this action;
- B. Declare that New York Penal Law §400.00(1)(b) & (n) on their face and/or as applied violate Sibley's rights to speech and petition guaranteed under the First and Fourteenth Amendments for the ideas and viewpoints as expressed in Sibley's litigations and petitions;
- C. Declare that New York Penal Law §400.00(1)(b) & (n) on their face and/or as applied are void-for-vagueness, facially overbroad, violate the equal protection and privileges or immunities guarantees of the First and Fourteenth Amendments and encourages and permits, as here, arbitrary and discriminatory enforcement.
- D. Retain jurisdiction of this matter to enforce this Declaratory Decree if subsequently violated; and
- E. Enter such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

**FOURTH CLAIM  
DECLARATORY RELIEF**

29. Sibley re-alleges paragraphs 1 through 28 and incorporates them herein by reference.

30. N.Y. Admin. P. Act, §100 *et seq.* on its face and/or as applied permitted the Defendant Licensing Officer to deny Sibley's Application: (i) upon evidence the Defendant Licensing Officer *ex parte* received from the Steuben County Sheriff's Office which the Defendant Licensing Officer refused to disclose to Sibley, (ii) upon the Defendant Licensing Officer own *ex parte* communications with Sibley's employer, (iii) before receiving Sibley's

factual and legal contentions in opposition, (iv) by an Order which failed to articulate the factual and legal basis for the decision and (v) in violation of the six (6) month statutory time constraint for determining Sibley's Application contained in N.Y. Penal Law §400.00(4-a).

31. As such, N.Y. Admin. P. Act, §100 *et seq.* on its face and/or as applied violated Sibley's due process rights protected by the Fourteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution, the New York State Constitution, Article I, §6 and the tenets of New York Administrative Law.

WHEREFORE, Sibley respectfully requests that this Court:

- A. Assume jurisdiction of this action;
- B. Declare that N.Y. Admin. P. Act, §100 *et seq.* on its face and/or as applied in Sibley's Application violated Sibley's due process rights protected by the Fourteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution, the New York State Constitution, Article I, §6 and the tenets of New York Administrative Law.
- C. Retain jurisdiction of this matter to enforce this Declaratory Decree if subsequently violated; and
- D. Enter such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

**FIFTH CLAIM  
DECLARATORY RELIEF**

32. Sibley re-alleges paragraphs 1 through 31 and incorporates them herein by reference.

33. In New York, the administrative determination of Sibley's Application by the Defendant Licensing Office is not the last word: Sibley has an absolute right to challenge the legality of the Defendant Licensing Officer's determination of Sibley's Application before an independent judicial tribunal.

34. In New York, CPLR Article 78 is the only avenue available for relief from administrative determinations. In an Article 78 proceeding, only four questions may be raised.

They are as follows:

- Whether the body or officer failed to perform a duty enjoined upon it by law;
- Whether the body or officer proceeded, is proceeding or is about to proceed, without or in excess of jurisdiction;
- Whether a determination made, in violation of lawful procedure, was affected by an error of law or was arbitrary and capricious or an abuse of discretion, including abuse of discretion as to the measure or mode of penalty or discipline imposed; or
- Whether a determination made, as a result of a hearing held, at which evidence was taken pursuant to direction by law, is on the entire record supported by substantial evidence.

35. The New York Secure Ammunition and Firearms Enforcement Act of 2013 allows the holders of handgun permits: “to request that their application information be made exempt from disclosure under state Freedom of Information Law.”

36. An Article 78 judicial review of Sibley’s Application would be meaningless, since such a decision regarding whether a determination is arbitrary or capricious *a priori* can only be made by comparing Sibley’s Application to: (i) objective standards or (ii) other determinations, neither of which are available in an Article 78 proceeding as there are neither objective standards contained in New York Penal Law §400.00(1)(b) & (n) nor are other determinations of Pistol/Revolver applications available to compare Sibley’s Application against to insure equal application of New York Penal Law §400.00(1).

37. Moreover, an Article 78 judicial review would be meaningless as Sibley has not been given: (i) the factual basis for the Defendant Licensing Officer’s decision, (ii) the specific

reason for denial of Sibley Application nor (iii) a meaningful opportunity to respond to those reasons.

WHEREFORE, Sibley respectfully requests that this Court:

- A. Assume jurisdiction of this action;
- B. Declare that a New York CPLR Article 78 review of Sibley's Application on its face and/or as applied would violate Sibley's due process rights protected by the Fourteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution, New York State Constitution, Article I, §6 and the tenets of New York Administrative Law.
- C. Retain jurisdiction of this matter to enforce this Declaratory Decree if subsequently violated; and
- D. Enter such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

**ADVISORY JURY TRIAL REQUESTED**

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

**MONTGOMERY BLAIR SIBLEY**  
Plaintiff  
189 Chemung Street  
Corning, N.Y. 14830  
(607) 301-0967  
mbsibley@gmail.com

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Montgomery Blair Sibley

INSTRUCTIONS: Print or type in black ink only

NYSID Number	PPB 3 (Rev. 06/17)	County of Issue Steuben
License Number	<b>STATE OF NEW YORK</b> <b>PISTOL /REVOLVER LICENSE APPLICATION</b>	Expiration Date
Date of Issue		

In accordance with the Federal Privacy Act of 1974, you are hereby notified that your Social Security Number is not mandated by law. It is required by the Pistol Permit Bureau as part of the standard for recording firearms. Failure to disclose your Social Security Number will result in your application from being recorded. If the Bureau will release your Social Security Number for reasons required by law or with your written consent.

Last Name S I B L E Y										Suffix		
First Name M O N T G O M E R Y										MI B	Date of Birth - MM DD YYYY	NY Driver's License (or NY Non-Driver ID) No.
Gender M	Social Security		Race W	Height ft 6 in 0	Weight 190	Eyes BLUE	Hair GRAY	Citizen of U.S.A. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO				

Physical Address (Street number, street name, apartment number, city, state, zip code)  
189 CHEMUNG STREET, #3, CORNING, NY 14830

Mailing Address (If different from physical address)  
SAME

Primary Phone Number 607-301-0967	Secondary Phone Number	Email Address MBSIBLEY@GMAIL.COM
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Employed By MERIDIAN BIRD REMOVAL	Present Occupation NUISANCE WILDLIFE CONTROL OPERATOR	Nature of Business NUISANCE WILDLIFE CONTROL
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Business Address (Street number, street name, apartment number, city, state, zip code)  
17 N Franklin St, Christiansburg, VA 24073

I hereby apply for a Pistol / Revolver License to: (Check only one)  Carry Concealed  \* Possess on Premises  \* Possess / Carry During Employment

(\* ) Premise Address or Employer Name and Address must be provided below:

Employer Name (if Carry During Employment) MERIDIAN BIRD REMOVAL	Address or Other Location (Street number, street name, apartment number, city, state, zip code) 17 N Franklin St, Christiansburg, VA 24073
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A license is required for the following reasons:  
PERSONAL SAFETY AND FOR USE IN EMPLOYMENT WHEN I MUST DISPATCH WILDLIFE

Give four character references who by their signature attest to your good moral character.

Last, First, MI	Street Address, (Street number, street name, apartment number, city, state, zip code)	Signature
Nicol, Kathleen	[REDACTED]	
Schonberg, Rita	[REDACTED]	
Siegel, John 607A	[REDACTED]	
Solomon, Paul	[REDACTED]	

Have you ever been arrested, summoned, charged or indicted anywhere for any offense, including DWI (except traffic infractions)?  YES  NO

If Yes, furnish the following information:

Arrest Date	Police Agency	Charge	Disposition Date	Disposition Court	Disposition

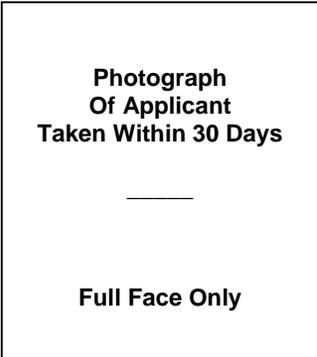
Are you a fugitive from justice?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
Are you an unlawful user of or addicted to any controlled substance as defined in section 21 U.S.C. 802?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
Are you an alien illegally or unlawfully in the United States?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
Are you an alien admitted to the United States who does not qualify for the exceptions under 18 U.S.C. 922 (y)(2)?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
Have you been discharged from the Armed Forces under dishonorable conditions?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
Have you ever renounced your United States citizenship?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
Have you ever suffered any mental illness?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
Have you ever been involuntarily committed to a mental health facility?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
Have you ever had a pistol / revolver license revoked?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
Are you under any firearms suspension or ineligibility order issued pursuant to the provisions of section 530.14 of the criminal procedure law or section eight hundred forty-two-a of the family court act?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
Have you had a guardian appointed for you pursuant to any provision of state law, based on a determination that as a result of marked subnormal intelligence, mental illness, incapacity, condition or disease you lack the mental capacity to contract or manage your own affairs?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
Are you aware of any good cause for the denial of the license?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
Are you prohibited from possessing firearms under federal law, including having been convicted in any court of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence or being under indictment for a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

If the answer to any of the questions above is YES, explain here:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

For applicants under twenty-one years of age only:

Have you been honorably discharged from the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force or Coast Guard, or the National Guard of the State of New York?

YES  NO



Knowingly providing false information will be sufficient cause to deny this application and constitutes a crime punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both. I am aware that the following conditions affect any license which may be issued to me:

- 1. No license issued as a result of this application is valid in the City of New York.
2. Any license issued as a result of this application will be valid only for a pistol or revolver specifically described in the license properly issued by the licensing officer.
3. If I permanently change my address, notice of such change and my new address must be forwarded to the Superintendent of the State Police and in Nassau County and Suffolk County, to the licensing officer of that county, within 10 days of such change.
4. Any license issued as a result of this application is subject to revocation at any time by the licensing officer or any judge or justice of a court of record.

Jurat:

Signed and sworn to before me

This \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_\_

at \_\_\_\_\_, New York

Signature of Applicant

Signature of Officer Administering Oath

Title of Officer

APPLICATION NOT VALID UNLESS SWORN

Fingerprints submitted electronically by:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Date Submitted \_\_\_\_\_

Investigation Report - All information provided by this applicant has been verified:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Investigating Officer

This application is Approved - Disapproved (Strike out one)

The following restriction(s) is (are) applicable to this license:

Title and Signature of Licensing Officer

If Licensing Officer authorizes the possession of a pistol, revolver or single shot firearm(s) at the time of issue of original license, furnish the following information:

Table with 7 columns: Manufacturer, Pistol / Revolver / Single Shot, Model, Frame Only, Caliber(s), Serial Number, Property Of. Rows include Ruger (.22 cal auto pistol) and Browning (BDA .380 auto pistol).

Duplicate of this application must be filed with the Superintendent of State Police within 10 days of issuance as required by Penal Law Section 400.00 SUBD.5.

This form is approved by Superintendent of the State Police as required by Penal Law section 400.00, SUBD. 3.

STEUBEN COUNTY CLERK  
JUDITH M. HUNTER

Receipt

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Receipt Date: 07/18/2018 09:43:11 AM  
RECEIPT # 20180069770

Recording Clerk: LM  
Cash Drawer: CASH5  
Rec'd Frm: MONTGOMERY SIBLEY  
Rec'd In Person

Misc Fees

Pistol Permit - New	\$10.00
Pistol Permit Photo Fee	\$10.00

Receipt Summary

TOTAL RECEIPT: ---->	\$20.00
TOTAL RECEIVED: ---->	\$20.00

CASH BACK: ---->	\$0.00
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PAYMENTS

Cash ->	\$20.00
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STEUBEN COUNTY  
COUNTY & FAMILY COURT  
CHAMBERS  
3 E. PULTENEY SQUARE  
BATH NY 14810

(607) 622-8192

Fax (607) 622-8241

Hon. Chauncey J. Watches  
County and Family Court Judge

Vivian C. Strache, Esq.  
Court Attorney

May 29, 2019

Mr. Montgomery Sibley  
189 Chemung Street #3  
Corning, NY 14830

RE: NYS Pistol Permit Application

Dear Mr. Sibley:

Your application to obtain a pistol permit has been submitted to me for my consideration. I have reviewed your application and the investigation submitted by the Steuben County Sheriff's Department. The possession of a pistol permit license is a serious responsibility and a privilege. Therefore, the Court takes each application very seriously.

Your application for a pistol permit is denied. This decision is based upon concerns expressed in the Sheriff's investigation. The basis for the denial results from concerns about your being sufficiently responsible to possess and care for a pistol; the Court is concerned that your history demonstrates that you place your own interest above the interests of society

You do have the right to request a hearing with regard to the denial of your application. If you want a hearing you must submit a written request to the Pistol Permit Clerk within thirty (30) days of the date of this denial. The purpose of the hearing would be to allow you to testify and for you to present any other witness(es) that you believe could address the concerns mentioned in the foregoing and show that you should now be entitled to a pistol permit license. The County will also be able to present witnesses concerning the results of their investigation.

If after thirty (30) days, you fail to request a hearing, the denial will be deemed final.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chauncey J. Watches", written over a large, stylized flourish.

Chauncey J. Watches  
County Court Judge

CJW/rac

Exhibit "B"

# Montgomery Blair Sibley

---

189 Chemung Street  
Corning, N.Y. 14830  
607-301-0967  
mbsibley@gmail.com

June 14, 2019

USPS Tracking #: 9590940241208092937555  
Licensing Officer Chauncey J. Watches  
3 E. Pulteney Square  
Bath, N.Y. 14810

Re: *NYS Pistol Permit Application*

Greetings:

I am in receipt of that certain letter dated May 29, 2019, from you in your capacity as a New York Consolidated Laws, Penal Law §265.00(10) Licensing Officer to me. I have this day requested a hearing from the Steuben County Pistol Permit Clerk in regards to the denial of my Pistol Permit Application; a copy of that request is attached hereto. Please note my new telephone number above for any telephonic communications.

Prior to advising you regarding my desired scheduling and duration of the above-referenced hearing, I am requesting from you copies of all written investigation reports and/or objections from any police authority or person reported to you as the §265.00(10) Licensing Officer pursuant to NY CLS Penal §400.00(4). Additionally, please identify to me any orally communicated information you received regarding my application including, without limitation: (i) the name(s) and professional capacity of the reporting individual(s), (ii) the date and time of the report(s), (iii) the sum and substance of such report(s) and (iv) copies of any notes you made regarding the oral information you received in this regard. Finally, to the extent you consulted or were guided by any legal or educational authorities or State Administrative Procedure Act, §102(14) Guidance Documents or its like to process my application, please identify and provide copies of such documents.

Within thirty (30) days of receiving this information from you, I will advise you on: (i) the time I will need to gather my evidence in response to the information you have received pursuant to NY CLS Penal § 400.00(4), (ii) the subpoenas and/or depositions I will be requesting from you pursuant to NY CLS St Admin P Act, §304(2), (iii) the number of witnesses I expect to call at the hearing, and (iv) consequently, the time I will be requesting for the hearing.

Yours,

Exhibit "C"



STEUBEN COUNTY  
COUNTY & FAMILY COURT  
CHAMBERS  
3 E. PULTENEY SQUARE  
BATH NY 14810

(607) 622-8192  
Fax (607) 622-8241

Hon. Chauncey J. Watches  
County and Family Court Judge

Vivian C. Strache, Esq.  
Court Attorney

June 25, 2019

Montgomery Sibley  
189 Chemung Street #3  
Corning, NY 14830

RE: NYS Pistol Permit Application

Dear Mr. Sibley:

I am in receipt of your letter dated June 14, 2019 concerning the denial of your application to obtain a pistol permit. Pursuant to your request I have scheduled a hearing on July 31, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. in Courtroom C at the Steuben County Courthouse, 3 E. Pulteney Square, Bath, New York. You should be prepared to proceed on that date with any evidence which you intend to present to the Court including testimony from you or any other witness concerning your application.

I have reviewed your requests for information and documents and find them to be without legal basis and therefore they are denied.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chauncey J. Watches".

Chauncey J. Watches  
Steuben County Court Judge

CJW/rac

cc: Steuben County Pistol Permit Clerk